

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 02605 192011Z

12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

ACDA-05 EB-07 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /081 W

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R 191836Z DEC 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1809

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2605

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFPR, EAIR, WB, UK, FR, US

SUBJECT: BERLIN PAPERS CLHWB AND FRENCH

CHARTER RESTRICTIONS

1. SUMMARY: DER TAGESSPIEGEL DECEMBER 19 CARRIES NEWS REPORT AND COMMENTARY SHARPLY CRITICAL OF BRITISH DECISION TO REJECT PAN AM APPLICATIONS FOR FURTHER BERLIN-LONDON CHARTER FLIGHTS. PAPER REPORTS, AND LOCAL PAN AM DIRECTOR CONFIRMS, THAT APPROXIMATELY 1000 BERLIN TOURISTS WILL BE STRANDED IN LONDON BETWEEN CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S UNLESS PAN AM CAN OBTAIN SPECIAL PERMISSION TO CARRY THEM ON EMERGENCY FLIGHTS. END SUMMARY.

2. TAGESSPIEGEL NEWS REPORTS SAYS THAT INTRA-ALLIED SQUABBLE OVER CHARTERS WORSENERED WITH RECEIPT OF WORD BY PAN AM GERMAN OFFICE DECEMBER 18 THAT NO FURTHER CHARTER FLIGHTS WILL BE APPROVED BY BRITISH AUTHORITIES AND FURTHER APPLICATIONS WOULD BE POINTLESS. PAPER NOTES THAT U.S. APPROACHES TO BRITISH AND FRENCH OVER RESTRICTIONS ON FLIGHTS TO THEIR

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PAGE 02 USBERL 02605 192011Z

RESPECTIVE CAPITALS BY AMERICAN FLAG CHARTERERS HAVE

FAILED TO PRODUCE RESULTS. UNGER TOURS, IN OVERLY OPTIMISTIC EXPECTATION THAT FURTHER PAN AM FLIGHTS WOULD BE APPROVED FOR END OF MONTH, HAD, HOWEVER, SENT OUT APPROXIMATELY 1000 TOURISTS ON EARLIER FLIGHTS WHO NOW HAVE NO PLANES TO RETURN THEM AFTER CHRISTMAS. PAPER REPORTS THAT UNGER'S EFFORTS TO PLACE THESE TOURISTS ON BRITISH PLANES HAVE THUS FAR BEEN FRUITLESS SINCE B BRITISH CHARTERERS AND BRITISH AIRWAYS ARE SOLD OUT THROUGH JANUARY 4. PAN AM BERLIN DIRECTOR CONFIRMED TO MISOFF DECEMBER 19 THAT PAN AM IS PRESENTLY SEEKING TO INVOKE IATA EMERGENCY PROVISIONS TO CARRY STRANDED BERLINERS HOME ON SPECIAL JUMBO JETS THAT WOULD TRAVEL VIA FRANKFURT.

3. TAGESSPIEGEL EDITORIAL SHARPLY CRITICIZES BOTH FRENCH AND BRITISH "DANGEROUS PROTECTIONIST PRACTICES," NOTING THAT THEY PLAY INTO HANDS OF GDR AND OTHERS WHO WISH TO CRIPPLE WEST BERLIN CIVIL AVIATION. PAPER SUGGESTS THAT WITH ALLIES FOR FIRST TIME PUBLICLY SQUABBLING AMONG THEMSELVES FOR COMMERCIAL ADVANTAGE INSTEAD OF GIVING PRECEDENCE TO POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF AIR LINKS, OTHER COUNTRIES (SUCH AS GREECE, YUGOSLAVIA, ITALY, SWITZERLAND ETCML THAT HAVE HITHERTO PERMITTED ALLIED CARRIERS LANDING RIGHTS FOR CHARTER FLIGHTS WITHOUT INSISTING ON RECIPROCITY MAY TAKE NEW HARD LOOK AT SITUATION. DANGER, TAGESSPIEGEL POINTS OUT, IS THAT THEY MAY BECOME MORE INCLINED TO LOOK AT GDR OFFERS TO WORK OUT RECIPROCAL LANDING RIGHTS DEAL UNDER WHICH THEIR AIRLINES COMPETE FOR WEST BERLIN CHARTER BUSINESS BY UTILIZING SCHOENEFELD AND PERHAPS, AS IN CASE OF TURKS AND THY, ALSO CONSIDER TAKING RESTRICTIVE MEASURES AGAINST ALLIED FLIGHTS. PAPER SPECULATES THAT BRITISH AND FRENCH MAY BE TEMPTED TO PLAN DANGEROUDSGAME IN PART IN ORDER TO BRING U.S. AROUND TO MORE FAVORABLE POSITION ON GRANTING LANDING RIGHTS IN U.S. TO CONCORDE. (PAN AM DIRECTOR SPECULATES THAT, WITH BRITISH AT LEAST, IN ADDITION TO STRAIGHT COMMERCIAL ARGUMENTS, ONE UNDERLYING FACTOR MAY BE LONG-STANDING DISAGREEMENT PAN AM HAS HAD WITH DEPARTMENT OF TRADE OVER PERCENTAGE AIRLINE MAY PAY TO TRAVEL AGENT FOR SELLING TICKET, A PROBLEM NOT PARTICULAR TO BERLIN). REGARDLESS OF REASON, TAGESSPIEGEL POINTS OUT, RESULT IS "AN OBJECTIONABLE DEVELOPMENT THAT CAN EVOKE JOY ONLY IN EAST BERLIN AND MOSCOW."

4. PAN AM BERLIN DIRECTOR (GALLAGHER) IS AT A LOSS TO EXPLAIN
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PAGE 03 USBERL 02605 192011Z

BRITISH POLICY GIVEN FACT THAT WHILE LONDON CHARTER MARKET IS BURGEONING TWO-THIRDS OF IT IS CARRIED BY BRITISH CARRIERS.GEORGE

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